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**SUBJECT: TERRORISM: LIBYAN EXTERNAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION
ACTIVITIES IN MALTA**

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TEXT: 1. ON 8 OCTOBER 1988, LIBYAN EXTERNAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION (ESO) OFFICERS ABD'AL BASAT EL-((MEGRI)) AND ABU AGELA ((MASSUD)) ARRIVED IN MALTA ABOARD A LIBYAN ARAB AIRLINES (LAA) FLIGHT FROM TRIPOLI. ABOARD THE SAME FLIGHT WAS TWO UNIDENTIFIED NON-LIBYAN ARABS, ONE OF WHOM CARRIED A NORTH YEMENESE PASSPORT. ALTHOUGH THE FOUR INDIVIDUALS TRAVELED SEPARATELY, THEY WERE IN MALTA AS A GROUP AT THE DIRECTION OF SENIOR ESO OFFICER 'ABDALLAH MUHAMMAD ((SANUSSI)). LATER ON 8 OCTOBER, THE FOUR MET AT AN APARTMENT IN VALLETTA WHICH IS RENTED BY THE LAA OFFICE IN MALTA.

2. UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN MALTA, EL-MEGRI ASKED THE LAA OFFICE TO ARRANGE FLIGHT RESERVATIONS FOR THE GROUP TO TRAVEL TO NDJAMENA, CHAD. THE LAA OFFICE WAS UNABLE, HOWEVER, TO BOOK THE GROUP ON CONNECTING FLIGHTS ON THE DATES WHICH WERE PROVIDED BY EL-MEGRI. (SOURCE COMMENT: THE EXACT DATES THAT EL-MEGRI WANTED TO TRAVEL TO CHAD IS UNKNOWN.) FOLLOWING THE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO BOOK FLIGHT RESERVATIONS TO CHAD, EL-MEGRI ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT ESO CHIEF IBRAHIM ((BISHARI)) IN TRIPOLI BY TELEPHONE. EL-MEGRI CONTACTED SENIOR ESO OFFICER MUHAMMAD ((NA'AMA)) WHO INSTRUCTED EL-MEGRI TO TELEPHONE SANUSSI. WHEN EL-MEGRI REACHED SANUSSI AND EXPLAINED THE DIFFICULTIES IN SCHEDULING FLIGHT RESERVATIONS TO CHAD, SANUSSI BECAME FURIOUS AND INSTRUCTED EL-MEGRI TO STAND-DOWN ON THE OPERATION. ON 10 OCTOBER, EL-MEGRI DEPARTED MALTA ENROUTE TO ROME AND MASSUD, WHO TRAVELED ON LIBYAN PASSPORT NUMBER 835004, AND THE TWO OTHER ARABS IN THE GROUP RETURNED TO LIBYA.

3. ON 10 OCTOBER, SENIOR ESO OFFICER NASR ((ASHUR)) ARRIVED IN MALTA TRAVELING UNDER THE ALIAS NAME "NASR ((SALIM))" CARRYING LIBYAN PASSPORT NUMBER 689008. HE WAS MET AT THE LAA AIRCRAFT BY THE AIR MALTA DUTY OFFICER AND WAS ESCORTED THROUGH THE VIP LOUNGE. ARRIVING ON THE SAME FLIGHT FROM LIBYA WAS ESO OFFICER ABD'AL SALAM EL-((MARABY)) WHO TRAVELED ON LIBYAN PASSPORT NUMBER 422898.

4. (SOURCE COMMENT: IT IS UNKNOWN WHAT EL-MEGRI'S MISSION WAS AND WHY ASHUR AND MARABY ARRIVED IN MALTA TWO DAYS LATER. GIVEN SANUSSI'S DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN THE FOUR-MAN MISSION LED BY EL-MEGRI, IT APPEARS THAT THE GROUP WAS PLANNING SOME TYPE OF SPECIAL OPERATION.)

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